

## CLAIMS

1. Use of a composition comprising either

a) alpha-linolenic acid (ALA, C18:3 n-3) and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof; or

5 b) docosahexaenoic acid (DHA, C22:6 n-3) and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof; or

c) DHA in admixture with eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA, C20:5 n-3) , in a ratio of 1:0.5 to 1:1.7, respectively, and/or the pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and/or precursors thereof;

10 either a) or b) or c) being in a concentration not lower than 70% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition, for the preparation of a drug for the prevention and/or treatment of the disturbances of the central nervous system (CNS).

2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the disturbances of CNS are neurological and/or psychiatric disturbances.

15 3. Use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the disturbances of CNS are epilepsy, schizophrenia, manic-depressive syndrome, major depression, and Alzheimer's disease.

4. Use according to the previous claim, wherein epilepsy shows partial and/or generalized seizures.

5. Use according to claim 3 or 4, wherein epilepsy shows simple and/or complex seizures.

20 6. Use according to claim 3, wherein schizophrenia shows negative and/or positive symptoms.

7. Use according to claim 3 or 6, wherein schizophrenia is paranoid, catatonic, disorganised or undifferentiated schizophrenia.

25 8. Use according to claim 3, wherein the manic-depressive syndrome and major depression include disorders of mood, behaviour and autonomic functions correlated to activity, sleep and appetite.

9. Use according to claim 3, wherein the Alzheimer's disease includes the various related forms of dementia.

30 10. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the ratio of DHA to EPA in c) is of 1:0.9 to 1:1.5.

11. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the concentration of either a) or b) or c) is of 75% to 95% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition.

12. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the concentration of either a) or b) or c) is of 80% to 90% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition.

35 13. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the concentration of either a) or b)

or c) is of 85% by weight of the total fatty acids weight in the composition.<sup>14</sup>

14. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the composition comprises at least another n-3 and/or n-6 polyunsaturated and/or monounsaturated and/or saturated fatty acid.

15. Use according to the previous claim, wherein the composition comprises at least two other n-3 and/or n-6 polyunsaturated and/or monounsaturated and/or saturated fatty acids, in any ratio among themselves.

16. Use according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the other n-3 and/or n-6 polyunsaturated and/or monounsaturated and/or saturated fatty acids are in a concentration of lower or equal to 30%.

17. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the derivatives of ALA, DHA and EPA are selected from the group consisting of their C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl esters, glyceride mono-, di-, tri-esters, salts with pharmaceutically acceptable bases, whereas the precursors of ALA, DHA and EPA are the compounds able to lead to them through *in vivo* transformations.

18. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug comprises essentially DHA ethyl ester and EPA ethyl ester.

19. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered by oral route.

20. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is in the form of soft gelatine capsules.

21. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered at the dose of 0.1-5 g/day.

22. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered at the dose of 0.3-3 g/day.

23. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered at the dose of 1-2 g/day.

24. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug is administered separately, as a coadjuvant or an auxiliary drug, from at least another drug effective for the prevention and/or treatment of the disturbances of CNS.

25. Use according to any of the previous claims, wherein the drug comprises at least another drug effective for the prevention and/or treatment of the disturbances of CNS.

26. A method for prevention and/or treatment of CNS disturbances in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective dose of a drug as defined in any of the previous claims.

27. A method according to the previous claim, wherein the therapeutically effective dose ranges from about 2 to 60 mg/kg of the mammal body weight per day.

28. A method according to claim 26 or 27<sup>15</sup>, wherein the CNS disturbances are epilepsy, schizophrenia, manic- depressive syndrome, major depression and Alzheimer's disease.